The following is a complete listing of the claims:

1.-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A coal-based cellular product manufactured by the process comprising:

selecting a low volatile bituminous coal and a high volatile bituminous coal; grinding said low volatile bituminous coal to a size below about 1 mm; grinding said high volatile bituminous coal to a size below about 1 mm;

loading each of said high and said low bituminous <u>coal</u> into a ceramic mold, wherein said low bituminous coal and said high bituminous coal are separated by partitions within the mold;

vibrating said mold to achieve a predetermined packing density of said low volatile bituminous coal and said high volatile bituminous coal;

removing said partition from said mold;

heating said mold under a non-oxidizing atmosphere to a temperature ranging from about 300°C to about 700°C ; and

controllably cooling said coal-based product.